

LAKWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation
1375 West Clifton Boulevard, Lakewood, OH



Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

August 10, 2025 | 10:00 AM

Liturgy adapted from Rev. Dr. Cheryl Lindsay | UCC Worship Ways

*The flowers on the altar are
dedicated in loving memory of
Caroline Ellen Trela from her parents*

Announcements and Welcome

Prelude

***Call to Worship** (Inspired by Psalm 50)

One: The mighty one, God the Holy One, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Many: Out of the kingdom, the perfection of beauty, the splendor of creation, the wonder of ages, God shines forth.

One: The mighty one, God the Holy One, speaks and calls to the heavens above and to the earth in order to judge the people.

Many: Out of justice and righteousness, God shines forth.

One: The mighty one, God the Holy One, speaks and receives our thanksgiving, honor, and praise.

Many: Out of our witness, worship, and testimony, God shines forth.

***Hymn**

#633

Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

***Prayer of Invocation** (in unison)

Wonderful God, set your kingdom before us anew. Dwell with us as we bring our songs and prayers, our hopes and hesitations, our faith and our disbelief before you. Demonstrate your kingdom to us and through our time of gathering so that we may be firm and steadfast in love and action. May your Spirit enliven, challenge, and guide us in all things and for all days. Amen.

Anthem

James M. Stevens

Consider the Lilies
LCC Summer Pick Up Choir

A Time of Prayer

Invitation to Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

A Time of Sharing

Offertory

***Doxology** (in unison)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*** Prayer of Dedication** (in unison)

Generous God, as we bring our gifts, we ask for you to receive them and endow us with wisdom and discernment to be good stewards of your abundant blessings. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Paula Deal

Luke 12:32-40

"Don't be afraid, little flock, because your Father delights in giving you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to those in need. Make for yourselves wallets that don't wear out—a treasure in heaven that never runs out. No thief comes near there, and no moth destroys. Where your

treasure is, there your heart will be too. "Be dressed for service and keep your lamps lit. Be like people waiting for their master to come home from a wedding celebration, who can immediately open the door for him when he arrives and knocks on the door. Happy are those servants whom the master finds waiting up when he arrives. I assure you that, when he arrives, he will dress himself to serve, seat them at the table as honored guests, and wait on them. Happy are those whom he finds alert, even if he comes at midnight or just before dawn. But know this, if the homeowner had known what time the thief was coming, he wouldn't have allowed his home to be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Human One is coming at a time when you don't expect him."

Reflection

Rev, Joanna D'Agostino

***Closing Hymn**

#475

The Church of Christ in Every Age

***Benediction**

Postlude

Our Mission Statement proclaims our common goal.

*We strive to be a welcoming,
worshiping community of faith,
helping people discover and deepen
their relationship with God, growing as
disciples of Christ, and reaching out in
faith and loving service.*

In keeping with the spirit of our Mission Statement,

Lakewood Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is an Open and Affirming congregation. Wherever you are on life's journey, we welcome you and all people of every sexual orientation, age, ability, gender identity and expression, and ethnic, economic, and racial background into the full life and ministry of our church. We declare this in the everlasting grace of the Still-Speaking God.